

Five-Year Review Completed for Former Martin-Marietta Aluminum Reduction Facility

The Dalles, Oregon

May 2013

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently completed the fourth five-year review for the Former Martin-Marietta Aluminum Reduction Facility (the Site) in The Dalles, Oregon.

Background

The Former Martin-Marietta Aluminum Reduction Facility is located in The Dalles, Oregon, west of the Columbia River, as shown in Figure 1. The Martin Marietta Corporation used the Site for aluminum production activities from 1958 to 1984. During operations, contaminants were released to environment. These releases polluted soil and groundwater at the Site.

In 1987, the Site was listed as a Superfund site. From 1989 to 1992, the Martin Marietta Corporation, with oversight from EPA, cleaned up the Site. Cleanup consisted of consolidating waste in an onsite landfill and placing a soil cover over a pond area that received liquid waste. In 1996, EPA deleted the Site from the list of priority sites, but activities to maintain the landfill and former pond area will continue as long as there is waste left on the Site.



Figure 1. Location of the Site

Superfund, also known as CERCLA, is a federal environmental program that addresses sites contaminated with hazardous substances

What Is at the Site?

The Site is located on approximately 350 acres of land zoned for industrial use. Lockheed Martin Corporation owns a portion of the Site. Approximately 191 acres is currently owned by Northwest Aluminum Company (NAC) and Northwest Specialties.

As shown in Figure 2, Site features include:

- CERCLA Landfill and leachate tank
- RCRA Landfill
- Scrubber Sludge Ponds

The entire area is fenced and posted with signs warning against Site entry.

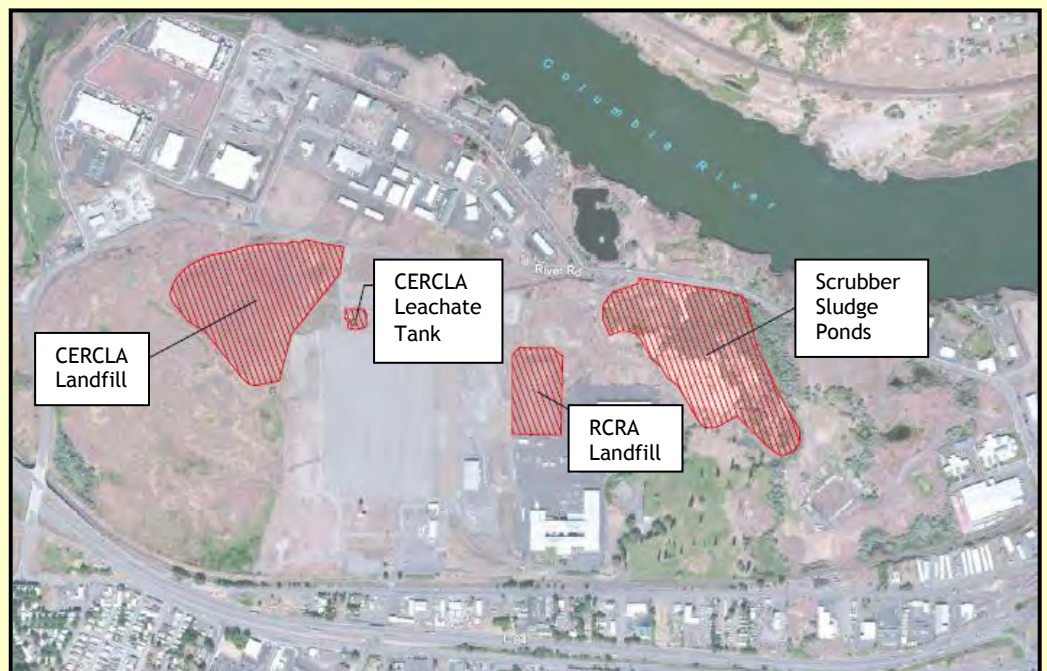


Figure 2. Site Features

CERCLA – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, & Liability Act

RCRA – Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

**The RCRA Landfill is not part of the CERCLA cleanup.*

What Is New at the Site?

NAC used the aluminum reduction smelter and associated buildings located on the Site from 1990 to 2003. In 2008, NAC demolished the smelter and many of the associated buildings. Under a voluntary cleanup, NAC removed additional soil from 2009 to 2011. The majority of the debris was disposed of offsite, but some concrete rubble was used as backfill.

Lockheed Martin placed additional fencing and signs around the CERCLA tank in 2012. Figure 3 shows the CERCLA tank which is part of the landfill leachate collection system. Figure 4 shows examples of types of fencing and signage used at the Site.



Figure 3. CERCLA Tank and Surrounding Fence

What were the Results of the Five-Year Review?

Cleanup at the Site was considered complete in 1996, but EPA still performs a review every five years because the CERCLA landfill and former pond area remain. The fourth five-year review for the Site was issued in May 2013. Although this review was delayed, the next review is scheduled for 2015.

Based on the fourth five-year review, EPA is recommending that additional information be collected to determine if the remedy still protects people and the environment.

Some of EPA's recommendations to Lockheed Martin (owner of the CERCLA landfill and former pond area) are to:

- Implement a more comprehensive groundwater monitoring program to better understand contamination.
- Complete air sampling at the CERCLA landfill to determine levels of gases.
- Sample the soil cover over the former pond area to determine if the cover is functioning correctly.
- Clarify site controls to ensure contaminated groundwater on the Site is not used for drinking water purposes.

EPA will use the information collected from the groundwater, air, and soil sampling to determine if the remedy is working correctly.



Figure 4. Types of Fencing and Signage at the Site

CERCLA requires a five-year review for sites that have contamination left in place. The purpose of the review is to ensure the cleanup remedy selected is still protective of human health and the environment.

How Can I Get More Information?

If you would like to read the entire five-year review or access other site information, visit

yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/sites/martinmarietta

If you would like more information on the Site, please contact:

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